

## Understand the Assignment

January 12, 2025

### 2 Corinthians 5:11-21

- We understand our fearful responsibility
  - Fear of the Lord – conscious awareness of accountability
  - Law and Love
  - What does the Lord require?
  - Micah 6:8

### Work hard to persuade people

- A sincere heart – speaks to motives
- Compared to Spectacular Ministry
  - 1 Corinthians 12-13 – Love, a more excellent way
- Seems like we are crazy
  - Mark 3:21.
  - To glorify God
  - Christ's love controls us
- 1 John 4:10, 12, 19
- Matthew 22:36–40 ... “You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.” ... ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’
- 1 John 4:20–21 ... Those who love God must also love their fellow believers.
- Luke 6:27–28 ... love your enemies! Do good to those who hate you. 28 Bless those who curse you. Pray for those who hurt you.
- No longer living for ourselves – live for Christ, died and raised for us

### The price that he paid

#### Stop evaluating others from a human point of view

- See them as God does – made new in Christ Jesus
- Confused, darkened in their understanding
- Abandoned to their way of thinking
- But not separated from the Love of God – nothing can
- Romans 8:38–39
- All this is a gift from God
- Given the task of reconciling people to God – (Title - Understand the assignment)

**Christ's Ambassadors** - Ambassadors are official representatives of one country to another.

- God's appeal
- Our plead with them
- Be reconciled
- Come back
- Made right with God
- Making an appeal
  - To one in authority (each person is the authority of their own will – until they have submitted that authority to the will of God)
  - Need of more information – eternity is determined by your will to be reconciled or not
  - Willing to yield to the authority – God is willing to yield to your authority when it comes to your will/your decision

### Come back to God – reconciled/relationship restored

- Come back - Relationship was Broken
- Genesis 3:6–7
- The Law of Genesis – everything reproduces after its own kind
  - Sinful humanity bears sinful humanity
  - Come back – be restored into a right relationship
- Age of Innocence
- Romans 7:9 (NASB95) — 9 I was once alive apart from the Law; but when the commandment came, sin became alive and I died;
- For God made Christ, who never sinned, to be the offering for our sin
- NASB — 21 He made Him who knew no sin to be sin
- Matthew 27:46 NASB “My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?”
- So that we could be made right with God through Christ

### The Surrender – not my will, but Yours be done

- Prayer (with sincerity) – “God in heaven, you were in Christ Jesus, reconciling people back to you. Jesus was made to be sin. Jesus took my sin and died on the cross. But Jesus was raised from the dead in victory over sin and death. Jesus, save me from my sin. I receive your forgiveness. **You are my Savior. (PAUSE)** And I surrender my will. Not my will, but yours be done. **You are my Lord!**”
- Romans 10:9–10